

**Starter**

# Welcome to junior high!



Welcome to junior high! You'll learn new things. You'll also meet new teachers and classmates. Are you ready? Let's start! It'll be fun!

## Get ready

### 1 Match the words and expression with the things in the picture.

- |                                      |                                 |
|--------------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> textbook    | <input type="checkbox"/> ruler  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> pencil case | <input type="checkbox"/> pencil |
| <input type="checkbox"/> pen         | <input type="checkbox"/> eraser |
| <input type="checkbox"/> schoolbag   | <input type="checkbox"/> paper  |



### 2 Read and complete. Then listen and check.

textbooks

pencil case

pens

schoolbag

ruler

**Mum:** Tomorrow is your first day of junior high school. Are you ready?

**Li Ming:** Yes, Mum!

**Mum:** Where is your <sup>1</sup> \_\_\_\_\_?

**Li Ming:** Here it is. And look at my <sup>2</sup> \_\_\_\_\_. I have two pencils, three <sup>3</sup> \_\_\_\_\_, an eraser and a <sup>4</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ in it.

**Mum:** And your <sup>5</sup> \_\_\_\_\_? Put them in your schoolbag.

**Li Ming:** OK.

Know more about nouns → p130

### 3 Listen and complete the conversation with *a / an* or a number.

one

two

three

four

five

six

seven

eight

nine

ten

eleven

twelve

**Mum:** How about you, Li Meng?

**Li Meng:** I am ready, too. Look. I have <sup>1</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ pencils and <sup>2</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ pens. I also have <sup>3</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ eraser and <sup>4</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ ruler. They are all in my pencil case.

Know more about numbers and articles → p131

### 4 Talk about your school things.

I have a schoolbag, a pencil case, three pencils, an eraser and a ruler.

**5 Match the subjects with the textbooks.**

- |                                                     |                                  |                                  |
|-----------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> geography                  | <input type="checkbox"/> English | <input type="checkbox"/> art     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> biology                    | <input type="checkbox"/> maths   | <input type="checkbox"/> music   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> PE                         | <input type="checkbox"/> Chinese | <input type="checkbox"/> history |
| <input type="checkbox"/> ethics and the rule of law |                                  |                                  |



**6 Read and answer. What subjects do Li Ming and Li Meng like best?**

**Mum:** What subjects do you have now?

**Li Ming:** Look here. We have Chinese, maths, English, ethics and the rule of law, art, music and PE.

**Li Meng:** We also have many new subjects, like history, geography and biology.

**Mum:** What subjects do you like best?

**Li Ming:** I like Chinese, English and art best.

**Li Meng:** I like maths, music and PE best.

**Know more about the simple present tense → p131**

**7 Work in pairs. Talk about your subjects.**

**A** What subjects do you have now?

**B** I have...

**A** What subjects do you like best?

**B** I like... best.



**8 Point and say.**

What colour is it?

It's grey.



**9 Match the words and expressions with the pictures.**

- ☐ sports trousers
- ☐ sports jacket
- ☐ red scarf
- ☐ T-shirt
- ☐ skirt
- ☐ shoes
- ☐ sports shoes
- ☐ shirt
- ☐ coat



**10 Listen and choose.**

**Nana:** Hi, Wang Tao. What are you going to wear tomorrow for school?

**Wang Tao:** My school uniform, of course. I'm going to wear a <sup>1</sup> **d** and <sup>2</sup> \_\_\_\_\_. How about you?

**Nana:** I'm also going to wear my school uniform. I have a <sup>3</sup> \_\_\_\_\_, a <sup>4</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ and a <sup>5</sup> \_\_\_\_\_.

**Wang Tao:** What shoes are you going to wear?

**Nana:** I'm going to wear a pair of <sup>6</sup> \_\_\_\_\_. How about you?

**Wang Tao:** I'll wear <sup>7</sup> \_\_\_\_\_.

**Nana:** Oh, don't forget your <sup>8</sup> \_\_\_\_\_.

**Wang Tao:** Thanks, I won't.

**Know more about the simple future tense → p132**

**11 Talk about what you are going to wear this weekend.**



## Know your school

1 Read and complete.

teaching building

dining hall

playground

library

# Welcome

This is your new school. There are three buildings and a playground. It's not big, but it is beautiful. Let's go around the school together!



This is the <sup>1</sup> \_\_\_\_\_. It has three floors. There are 30 classrooms on the first and second floors. And there are 10 science labs and eight computer labs on the third floor.





**2 Read and tick the correct sentences. Then correct the wrong ones.**

- ☐ 1 There are six floors in the teaching building. \_\_\_\_\_
- ☐ 2 There are reading rooms in the library. \_\_\_\_\_
- ☐ 3 Students can play football in the playground. \_\_\_\_\_
- ☐ 4 The food in the dining hall is not good. \_\_\_\_\_

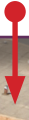
Know more about the *there be* structure → p132



This is our <sup>2</sup> \_\_\_\_\_. It has got many books. There are also reading rooms. We can read and study here.



This is our <sup>4</sup> \_\_\_\_\_. It's not big, but the food is good.



This is our <sup>3</sup> \_\_\_\_\_. We do morning exercises here. After school, we come to run or play football here.



**3 Match the sentences with the same structure.**

**a** This is our new school. ☐

**b** A new school year begins. ☐

**c** I love my new school! ☐

☐ **1** That is my new teacher.

☐ **2** The school has three buildings.

☐ **3** Students study.

☐ **4** We have seven lessons.

☐ **5** The library isn't big.

☐ **6** My favourite lesson starts.

**Know more about the basic sentence structures → p134**

**4 Talk about your new school.**

This is my new school. There are... buildings.  
This is the... It has... floors. There are... classrooms  
on the... floor.  
This is our... We can... here. I love my new school!





## Get to know each other

### 1 Read and complete.



Good morning, everyone!

Good morning, Teacher!

Welcome to junior high. I'm Mr Pan, your English teacher. I'm so happy to meet you all. I like playing the piano, reading books and travelling. And I love working with students. This year, we'll explore the world of English together. It'll be a lot of fun! Now, it's your turn to introduce yourselves. Please tell us your name and your hobby. Who wants to go first?

- 1 Mr Pan is a(n) \_\_\_\_\_ teacher.
- 2 Mr Pan likes \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_.
- 3 The students will \_\_\_\_\_ the world of English together.
- 4 The students are going to \_\_\_\_\_ themselves.

### 2 Work in groups. Think about ways to greet each other.

Good morning.

Good afternoon.

Good evening.

Good night.

Nice to meet you.

How are you?

...

### 3 Look and guess.

- 1 Where are the new students?
- 2 What is the girl doing?

### 4 Read and check your answers.



Hello everyone! My name is Zhu Xiaomeng. I'm thirteen years old. My birthday is in May. I love sports very much. I like running, playing football and swimming. I'm a bit nervous now, but I'm also happy to meet you. I want to make friends with you all!





**5 Complete the notes.**

**What is the girl's name?**

Zhu Xiaomeng.



**How old is she?**

She is <sup>1</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ years old.

**When is her birthday?**

Her birthday is in <sup>2</sup> \_\_\_\_\_.

**What are her hobbies?**

She <sup>3</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ sports. She likes running, <sup>4</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ and swimming.

**How is she feeling?**

She is a bit <sup>5</sup> \_\_\_\_\_, but she is also <sup>6</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ to meet new teachers and classmates.



**Know more about adjectives → p135**

**6 Write about yourself.**

Hello everyone! My name is \_\_\_\_\_.

I'm \_\_\_\_\_ years old. My birthday is in \_\_\_\_\_.

I like \_\_\_\_\_.

I'm \_\_\_\_\_.

I want to \_\_\_\_\_.

**When is your birthday?**



January February March April May June July  
August September October November December



**7 Introduce yourself to the class.**



Hello everyone. My name is...



## Make a wishing tree

1 Think about your wish.

I'm going to make more friends.



2 Write it down.



3 Put it on the "wishing tree".

### Wishing tree

Make more friends.

Learn to dance.

Join a football team.

Get better at English.

Learn to play the piano.

Read more books.

To make more friends, I'm going to take part in sports.

4 Make a plan for your wish and share it with the class.





# A new start



Do you feel excited about starting junior high? In this unit, let's explore junior high school life. What important lessons will you learn? How can you make good plans? What should you do in junior high? By the end of this unit, you will make a poster about your first week in junior high.

After completing the unit, you will be able to:

- ▶ use words and expressions in the unit to talk about your school life.
- ▶ use pronouns to talk about a teacher you like.
- ▶ describe your understanding of junior high.

How are they feeling?

## Starting out

### 1 Guess and match the sentences with the countries.

- |                                 |                                    |
|---------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Russia | <input type="checkbox"/> Indonesia |
| <input type="checkbox"/> France | <input type="checkbox"/> the USA   |

What do people  
do on the  
first day  
of school?



1 Parents and students visit the school.

2 Students play games and do team activities.

3 New students give flowers to their teachers.

4 Students get timetables and start their lessons.

### 2 Read and complete the table.

What is **junior high school life** like?

| I know...             | What I want to know...                     | How I can find out more...  |
|-----------------------|--------------------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1 School starts at... | 1 How many students are there in my class? | 1 I can talk to my teacher. |
| 2                     | 2                                          | 2                           |
| 3                     | 3                                          | 3                           |

## Understanding ideas

### 1 Complete the questionnaire.

#### ① Your first lesson in junior high:

☐ Chinese

☐ maths

☐ English

☐ biology

☐ geography

☐ history

☐ art

☐ PE

☐ music

☐ ethics and the rule of law

☐ others: \_\_\_\_\_

#### ② Do you like it? Why or why not?

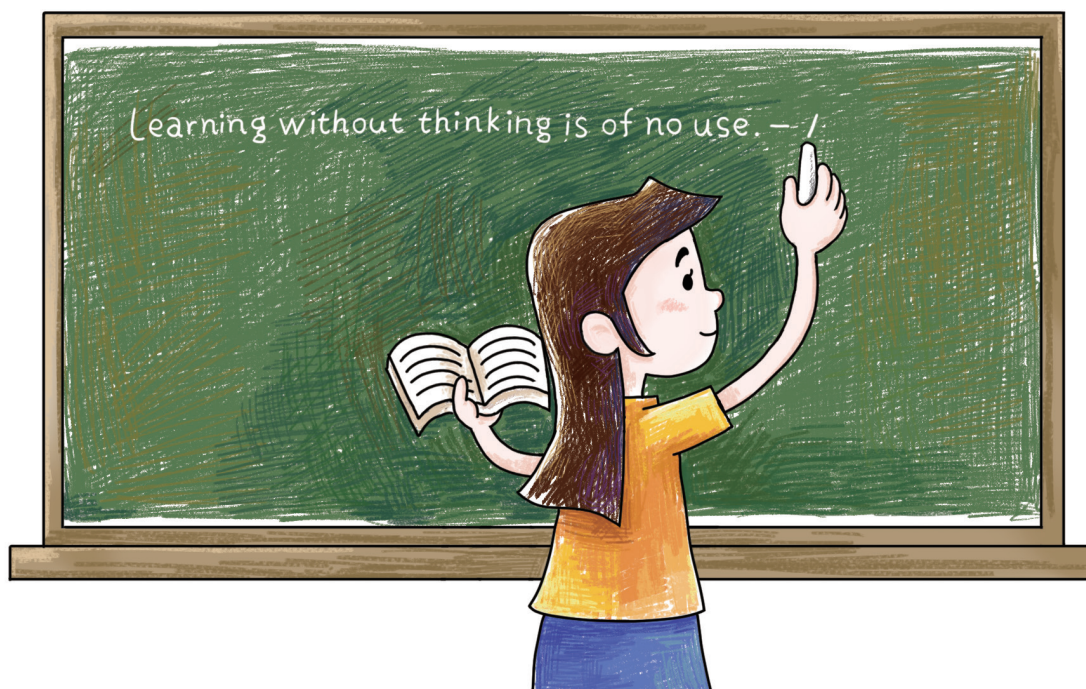
\_\_\_\_\_

#### ③ What do you think is important in learning the lesson?

\_\_\_\_\_

### 2 Read the passage. What does the writer do in his first lesson?

# The first lesson





1 Our English teacher Ms Chen writes the sentence on the blackboard and says, "Please write this down."

2 We start to write. I write down the first word and stop.

3 "That's not right. But is it OK to point out the mistake? Is that polite, in the first lesson?" Questions jump into my mind.

4 "Why aren't you writing, Wang Han?"

5 I look up at Ms Chen. My eyes meet hers. My mouth feels dry.

6 But then I think about the meaning of the sentence. I put up my hand.

7 "Ms Chen, there's a mistake," I say. "That sentence is from Confucius, not from Mencius."

8 "Well done, Wang Han. In fact, this is my first lesson for all of you. You are now in junior high school. Learning will be more difficult. You need to think more in your learning. Please always remember this."

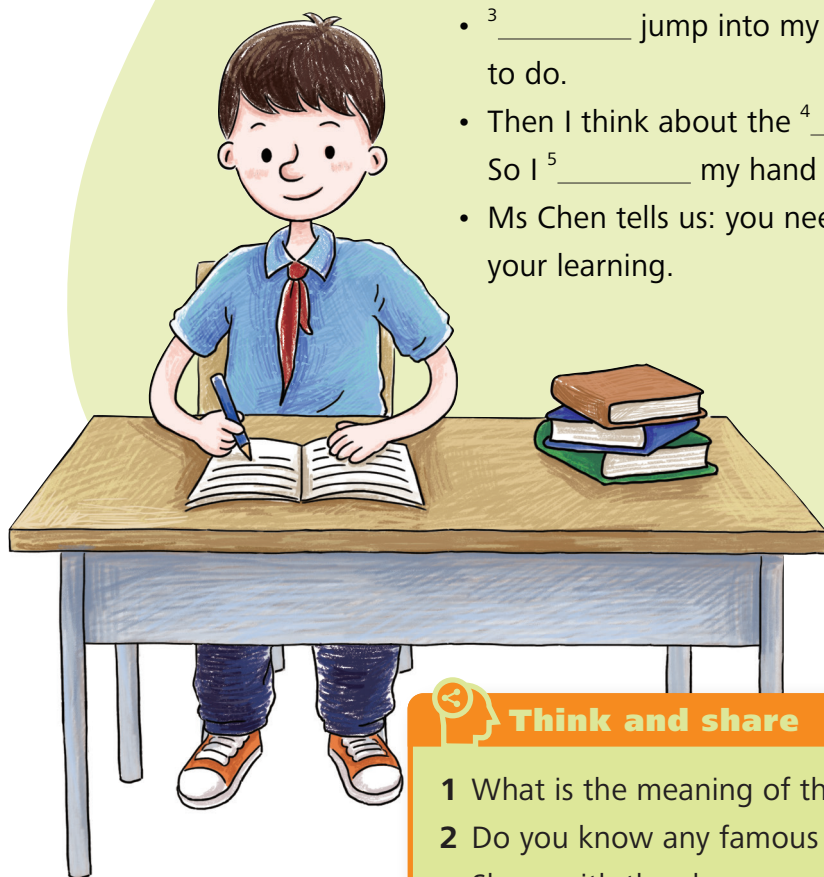
9 That's really an important lesson!



**3 Choose the main idea of the passage.**

- a We should learn from great thinkers.
- b Teachers sometimes make mistakes.
- c Students need to think for themselves.

**4 Complete the summary with the words and expression from the passage.**



- Ms Chen <sup>1</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ a sentence on the blackboard. But I find it is not <sup>2</sup> \_\_\_\_\_.
- <sup>3</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ jump into my mind. I don't know what to do.
- Then I think about the <sup>4</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ of the sentence. So I <sup>5</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ my hand and point out the mistake.
- Ms Chen tells us: you need to <sup>6</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ more in your learning.



**Think and share**

- 1** What is the meaning of the sentence from Confucius?
- 2** Do you know any famous sayings about learning? Share with the class.

**Learning to think for question 1**

Think about these questions: Who did Confucius say the sentence to? Why did he say it? What do you think about learning and thinking?

**5 Read the sentences from the reading passage and summarise the grammar rules.**

(a) I look up at Ms Chen. **My** eyes meet **hers**.

(b) In fact, this is **my** first lesson for all of **you**.

**Now find more sentences with this grammar in the reading passage.**

**6 Circle the correct words.**

1 Ms Wang is *my* / *I* Chinese teacher.

2 When is *we* / *our* next English class?

3 Fang Wei is a new friend of *mine* / *my* in junior high.

4 Jack's teacher asks *their* / *them* to get to school early.

**7 Read the passage and circle the correct words.**

### A great teacher

The bell rings, and *their* / *my* English teacher comes in. "My name's Pan Ming. What's *your* / *his* name?" He asks us to introduce ourselves.

"How about you first?" *I* / *he* look up. My eyes meet *his* / *ours*.

I feel so nervous. And I give a silly answer! "I'm fine, thank you, sir!"

My face turns red. But Mr Pan just looks at *me* / *her* with a smile and says, "Oh, Fine is a great name!"

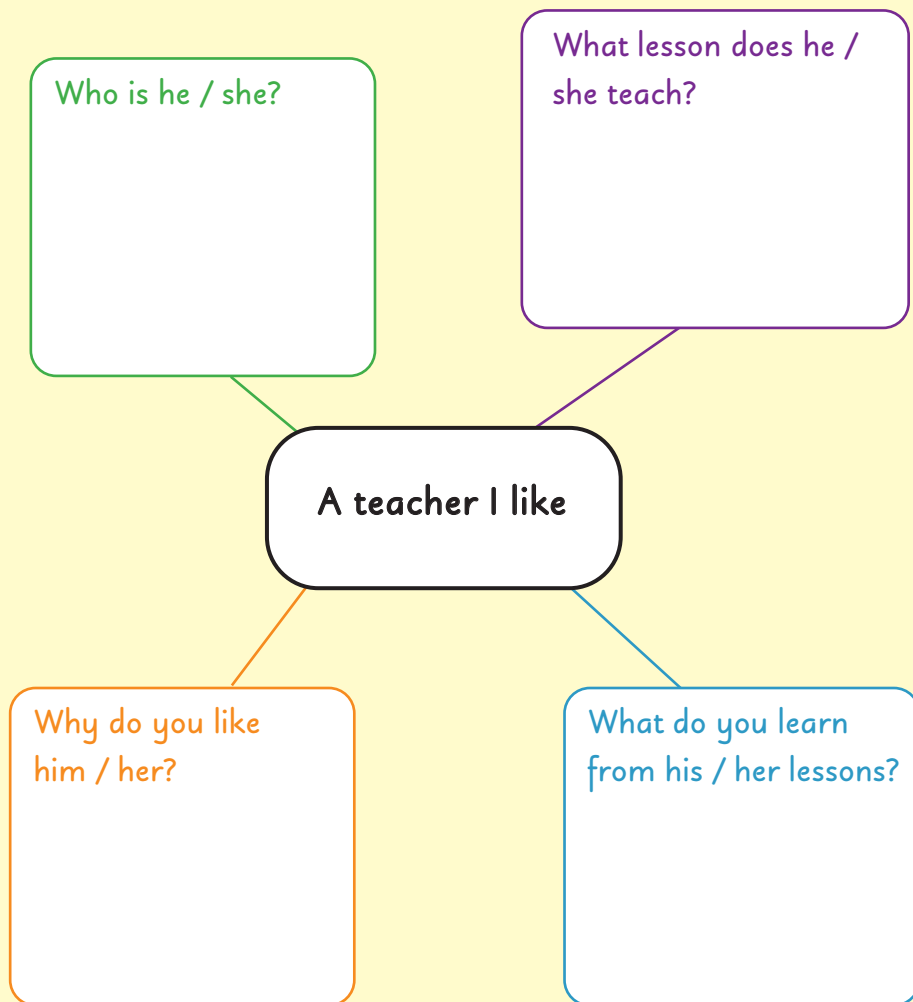
*His* / *Our* clever words make me feel better. I'm so lucky to have a teacher like him.





- 8 Work in pairs. Talk about a teacher you like. Use the thinking map to organise your ideas. Use the words and expressions from the reading passage and the *Useful expressions* to help you.

Example



► **Useful expressions**

- Mr / Ms... is our... teacher.
- Mr / Ms... tells us...
- His / Her... make(s) me feel...
- I'm so lucky to have a teacher like...
- We need to...
- That's really a(n)... lesson!

## Developing ideas

What do you think they are doing?



**DID YOU  
KNOW?**

A students' union supports students at school. Students' unions help hold all kinds of activities, such as cultural festivals and sports meets. They also help students with their problems.

### 1 Listen to the radio. What's the biggest problem for new students?

- a It's hard to make new friends.
- b It's hard to plan their time.
- c It's hard to do well in exams.



### Phonetics in use

#### Pronunciation:

/ɑː/ are hard

/æ/ activity plan

/e/ welcome second

Practise more → p111

**2**  Listen again and complete the poster.

## Students' Union talk

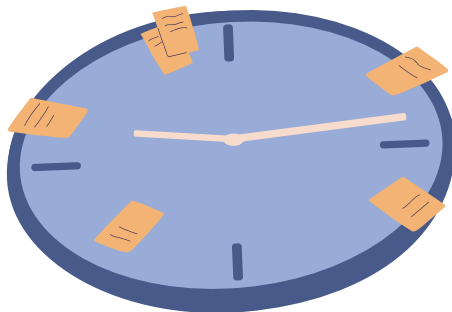
The new school <sup>1</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ is beginning.  
What are the <sup>2</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ students' problems?

### The biggest problem

They have more <sup>3</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ and more homework.

They also have <sup>4</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ activities.

How can they make good use of their <sup>5</sup> \_\_\_\_\_?



The Students' Union will hold a talk this  
<sup>6</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ to help you.

**Come and  
join us!**





**3**  **Listen to the conversation and complete the table.**

|  Wang Peng | Li Lin  |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| They have more subjects and more homework. It's <sup>1</sup> _____ to plan their time.      | Every day, <sup>2</sup> _____ down your tasks and the time for each task.                  |
| There are so many tasks.                                                                    | Do the most important things <sup>3</sup> _____.                                           |
| A project may take weeks.                                                                   | Turn a big task into <sup>4</sup> _____ ones. Then <sup>5</sup> _____ on them day by day.  |

 **Listen again. Then talk about how Wang Peng describes problems.**

**Learning to learn**

**Describing problems** Sometimes, we need to describe our problems to get help. We can first state our problem. For example, *It's hard to plan time*. Then we can provide more details. For example, *There are so many tasks*.

**4** **Work in pairs. Choose a problem in planning your studies and give advice.**

**Problem 1** There is a lot of homework today. It's hard to decide what to do first.

 **A** I have a problem. It's hard to...  
Can you give me some advice?

 **B** Sure. Here's the first piece of advice: ...

**Problem 2** It takes one month to finish a book report. It's hard to finish it on time.

 **A** But how about...?

 **B** That's the second piece of advice: ...

Useful expressions → p112

**Talk about what you have learnt about making good plans in junior high in this section.**

## Reading for writing

- 1 Look at the word and expressions and look up their meanings in a dictionary.

by yourself

problem

try your best

work hard

Steps of looking up an entry in a dictionary → p116

- 2 Read the passage and find out the meaning of the title.

# Before your journey starts



- Dad** Mia, how do you feel about your first day in junior high tomorrow?
- Mia** Well, I'm a little nervous.
- Mum** Don't worry. We've got something for you! Look!
- Mia** A paper boat?
- Dad** Yes, and it's also a letter from Mum and me. We want to share some thoughts with you.
- Mia** Oh, thank you!

Dear Mia,

- <sup>1</sup> Time flies! You are now in junior high! Are you ready for your new life?
- <sup>2</sup> Primary school is like a small pool. Your boat is safe there. Dad and Mum can protect it from winds. But junior high is like a river. It is wide and the water moves fast. You will face new problems. We are still here to help. But sometimes you have to sail your boat by yourself. Just try your best and work hard. You will go through storms towards the sea.
- <sup>3</sup> We hope this letter helps you in the coming years!

With love,  
Dad and Mum





**3 Complete the thinking map with the words and expressions from the passage.**

**Why do Dad and Mum write the letter?**

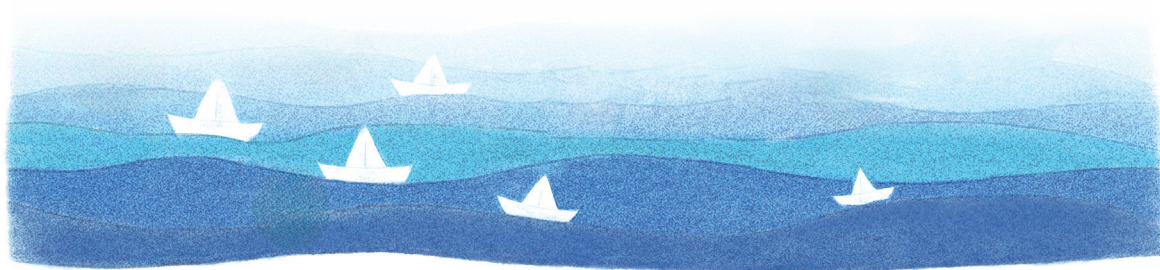
Mia is now in <sup>1</sup> \_\_\_\_\_. Dad and Mum want to share some <sup>2</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ with her.

**What do Dad and Mum want to tell Mia?**

- Mia will face <sup>3</sup> \_\_\_\_\_. Dad and Mum will still help her.
- Mia should try her <sup>4</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ and <sup>5</sup> \_\_\_\_\_.

**What do Dad and Mum hope?**

Dad and Mum hope this letter <sup>6</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ Mia in the coming years.



**4 Answer the questions.**

- 1 What do “a small pool”, “a river” and “the sea” stand for?
- 2 What do you think Mia’s parents do to protect her boat from winds?
- 3 What do you think the “storms” are?



**Think and share**

- 1 Do you agree with the description of primary school and junior high in the letter? Why or why not?
- 2 Do your parents give you any advice about life in junior high? What is it?

**Learning to think for question 1** Think about these questions: How will you describe primary school? How will you describe junior high? Are your descriptions similar to those in the letter?

**5 Complete Mia's reply to her parents.**

**Step 1**

Read Mia's reply. How many parts are there?

Dear Dad and Mum,

Thank you very much for your letter.

Show thanks to Dad and Mum.

Junior high school life is different.

How is life different in junior high?

I also have some problems. For example,

What is my problem?

I'm going to \_\_\_\_\_

What am I going to do?

Yours,  
Mia



**Step 2**

Complete Mia's reply. Use the ideas from this unit to help you.

**Step 3**

- Check. Did you: ☐ write about junior high school life?  
☐ use the words and expressions from the reading passage?  
☐ write about plans in junior high?

**Step 4**

Share your reply with the class.

## Presenting ideas

Make a poster about your first week in junior high.

### Step 1

Work in groups. Talk about your first week in junior high. Think about the things below. Take a group vote to decide what to put in your poster.

- studies
- activities
- problems
- feelings

### Step 2

Organise your ideas with the help of the following outline and make your poster. You may use the following language tips or find useful expressions or sentences from this unit.

#### Title of the poster

- My first week in junior high

#### Studies

- My favourite subjects are...
- My first lesson is...
- I learn...

#### Activities

- ... sing songs and read poems.
- ... play games and do team activities.

#### Problems

- Is it OK to...?
- It's hard to...

#### Feelings

- Questions jump into my mind.
- My mouth feels dry.



#### Remember!

Add pictures to your poster.



### Step 3

Practise and present your poster to the class.

### Step 4

Vote on the best three posters and the best three presentations.

## Reflection

1 After completing this unit, I understand more about junior high school life.

Starting junior high school life

We should think  
more in learning.

We should learn  
to \_\_\_\_\_.

We should try our best  
and \_\_\_\_\_.



2 To express my understanding, I can...

- ☐ use words and expressions in the unit to talk about my school life: \_\_\_\_\_
- ☐ use pronouns to talk about a teacher I like.
- ☐ describe my understanding of junior high.

\*1 = excellent, 2 = good, 3 = not yet

3 I still need to improve: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_